GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3477
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2005
NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AGRICULTURE
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Conference on Agriculture was held recently;

(b) if so, the details of the participants and the views/suggestions given by them alongwith the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the production of foodgrains for 2004-05 was also discussed;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): The National Conference on Agriculture for Kharif Campaign - 2005 was held on 22nd − 23rd March, 2005 at National Agriculture Science Centre (NASC), Pusa Complex, New Delhi under the chairmanship of Secretary (A&C).

(b): The Conference was attended by Agriculture Production Commissioners, Secretary (Agri.), Secretary (Hort.), Director (Agri.) of all the States/UTs, the representatives of concerned Central Ministries, namely, Water Resources, Rural Development, Finance, heads of several national level organizations such as, SFAC, SFCI, NSC, NABARD, KRIBHCO, NCDC, IFFCO, NAFED etc. and the senior officers from the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation. Vice- chancellors of different Agriculture Universities and their representatives also participated in the Conference.

Various issues as regard preparedness for Kharif − 2005 were discussed. The State were told to tie up availability of all inputs especially seeds, fertilizers, bio-pesticides etc. Some States requested for additional funds under various schemes. Department of Fertiliser stated that there will not be shortages of fertilizers during Kharif − 2005. All the States were assured that there will be no shortage of funds for various schemes. Presentations were made by all the States as well as by subject matter divisions of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, on readiness to implement various schemes including the proposed schemes like National Horticulture Mission, Micro Irrigation and Dryland Agriculture.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d)&(e): Rabi production of foodgrains (106.36 million tonnes) exceeded the Kharif production (104.08 million tonnes) this year (2004-05) for the first time since 1950-51. The production of rapeseed/mustard, pulses and cotton this year have been the highest so far. The total foodgrain production for the year 2004-05 is estimated to be 210.44 million tonnes.